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NEW FOOD PLANT FOR  
*DARAPSA PHOLUS* (CRAMER)  
(SPHINGIDAE)

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TIETZ (1972) listed the following plants for *Darapsa pholus*: *Kalmia angustifolia*, *Nyssa sylvatica*, *Rhododendron nudiflora*, *Rhododendron viscosa*, *Tradescantia virginiana*, *Viburnum dentatum*, *Viburnum lentago*, *Viburnum opulus*.

These records were taken from Beutenmüller (1895), Morris (1862), Harris (1839), J. E. Smith (1779) and others (Eliot and Soule, 1902; Fernald, 1886; Baynes-Reed, 1881). I myself checked additionally the following: Forbes (1948), Holland (1903), Rothschild and Jordan (1903), Clemens (1859), Fernald (1886, re-checked), Draudt in Seitz (1931) and Hodges (1971). The food plants for *D. pholus* mentioned in these publications are the following: Forbes: *Azalea*, *Viburnum* and "reported from other food plants, probably in error for *D. myron* and *cnotus*"; Holland: *Viburnum*, *Azalea*; Rothschild and Jordan: same as those of *Ampeloeca myron* (*Ampelopsis*, *Vitis*) which is certainly in error; Clemens: *Azalea nudiflora*; Fernald: *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, *Viburnum lentago*, *Viburnum dentatum*, *Viburnum opulus*, *Nyssa multiflora*, *Azalea viscosa*, *Azalea nudiflora* (it seems that the error concerning *Ampelopsis* originated with Fernald); Draudt in Seitz: *Ampelopsis Vitis* (probably on the authority of Rothschild and Jordan); Hodges: *Azalea Viburnum* species.

Tietz (1972) also gave *Viburnum* as a food plant for *D. myron* besides *Ampelopsis* and *Vitis*. Hodges (1971) too mentioned *Viburnum* for *D. myron* and it may be that the erroneous record of *Ampelopsis* and *Vitis* for *D. pholus* was created in a kind of exchange between food plants of *myron* and *pholus*. I did not check in which of the many papers quoted by Tietz for *D. myron* this *Viburnum* record originated.

One plant group, however, has never been mentioned among

the food plants of *D. pholus*: *Vaccinium* spp., our common blueberries. During field work in 1974 at Queen's University Biological Station at Chaffeys Locks, Leeds Co., Ontario, we found all stages of *D. pholus* associated with *Vaccinium* spp. and it is not unreasonable to suppose that *Vaccinium* may be a general food plant for the species, the more so as several *Viburnum* species are also common around Chaffeys Locks but *D. pholus* was not found associated with them.

Data for the immatures collected in 1971 are: egg on blueberry at Washburn, Ontario, 25 July, hatched and reared successfully on blueberry; third instar larva on blueberry on Snake I. in L. Opinicon, Chaffeys Locks, Ontario, 26 July, reared successfully on blueberry; a freshly-emerged, unmated female moth flushed from a blueberry patch at the Station around noon, 8 July, eggs infertile.

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